

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 DODE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00

INR-05 L-02 ACDA-05 NSAE-00 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

USIA-06 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 OMB-01 MC-01 AID-05 IGA-01

EB-04 COME-00 /072 W

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R 111743Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6186

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

USMISSION USBERLIN

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

CINCEUR VAIHINGEN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 17654

BERLIN FOR AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, GW, GR, TU

SUBJECT: AVAILABILITY OF FRG F-104'S

REFS: (A) STATE 234580, (B) BONN 16875, (C) BONN 16972

1. REF A ASKED THE EMBASSY TO REPORT ON THE CURRENT STATE OF FRG THINKING ABOUT MILITARY AID TO GREECE AND TURKEY AND THE INTENDED DISPOSITION OF THE 72 F-104'S ON THE 32ND DISPOSAL LIST OF BUNDESWEHR MATERIAL OF U.S. ORIGIN. REF B REPORTED INTER ALIA THAT THE GERMAN AIR FORCE (GAF) PREFERRED TO RETAIN ALL 72 AIRCRAFT FOR PURPOSES OF CANNIBALIZATION. REF C REPORTED THE COUNSELOR SONNENFELDT/ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN CONVERSATION WITH FONOFF POLITICAL DIRECTOR VAN WELL ON OCTOBER 27 IN WHICH THE POSSIBILITY OF THE FRG RELEASING THE SURPLUS AIRCRAFT AND PERHAPS DELIVERING  
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HALF TO GREECE AND HALF TO TURKEY WAS DISCUSSED.

2. WORKING LEVEL CONTACTS IN THE NATO DEPARTMENT OF THE FONOFF AND THE MILITARY POLICY AND PLANS STAFF OF FMOD HAVE STATED THAT THE GAF DOES NOT WISH TO RELEASE ANY OF THE AIRCRAFT. THE FMOD CONTACT IN PARTICULAR STRESSED THAT NONE OF THE AIRCRAFT IS AVAILABLE AND THAT THIS POSITION HAS BEEN CONFIRMED AT THE STATE SECRETARY LEVEL OF THE FMOD. THE REASON FOR THE REQUIREMENT IS THE CONCERN IN FMOD THAT THERE WILL BE SLIPPAGE IN THE DELIVERY OF THE MRCA, THE STARFIGHTER FOLLOW-ON AIRCRAFT, WHICH IS SCHEDULED TO BE INTRODUCED INTO THE GAF IN 1978. THE GERMANS BELIEVE THAT THE 72 AIRCRAFT MUST BE CANNIBALIZED IN ORDER TO KEEP THE FRG STARFIGHTER SQUADRONS AIRBORNE UNTIL THE MRCA IS AVAILABLE. OUR SOURCE DID NOT KNOW HOW MANY OF THE 72 AIRCRAFT HAVE THUS FAR BEEN CANNIBALIZED.

3. COMMENT: IT WOULD APPEAR THAT VAN WELL HAD NOT BEEN PROPERLY INFORMED BY HIS STAFF AS TO THE STATUS OF THE 72 AIRCRAFT WHEN HE MET WITH SONNENFELDT AND HARTMAN. WHEN WE CHECKED WITH HIM ON NOVEMBER 8, HE SAID HE HAD NOT REALIZED AT THE TIME THAT THE AIRCRAFT IN QUESTION WERE PART OF A DISPOSAL LIST. HE SAID HIS STATEMENT THAT THE FEDERAL SECURITY COUNCIL WOULD BE MEETING TO DECIDE THE QUESTION BEFORE CHRISTMAS HAD BEEN MEANT TO APPLY TO THE DEFENSE AID ISSUE (THE EIGHTH TRANCHE), NOT TO THE DISPOSITION OF THE F-104'S. VAN WELL CONFIRMED THAT THESE AIRCRAFT WOULD BE NEEDED BY THE GAF FOR CANNIBALIZATION. END COMMENT  
HILLENBRAND

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY AIRCRAFT, JET AIRCRAFT, EXCESS PROPERTY PROGRAMS, NEGOTIATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 11 NOV 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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